

REMARKS

In this paper, claim 1 is currently amended. After entry of the above amendment, claims 1-17 are pending.

Claims 1-5, 7, 10-11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Dunch (WO 81/01349). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the lamp control circuit controls the first lamp switch to intermittently supply power to the lamp from the dynamo while the battery voltage is below a selected value so that the lamp is illuminated while the battery voltage is below the selected value and the dynamo is intermittently supplying power. In the Dunch patent, bulbs (4,5) are illuminated by dynamo (1) when the bicycle is running at a sufficient speed, bulbs (4,5) are illuminated by batteries (7) when the bicycle stops, and bulbs (4,5) are shut off when the voltage of batteries (7) is too low. Dunch neither discloses nor suggests a system wherein lamps are illuminated from the dynamo while the battery voltage is below a selected value. In Dunch, bulbs (4,5) are merely shut off when the battery voltage is low.

As for claims 10-12, in Dunch the negative terminal of dynamo (1) is connected to a ground potential, and diodes (6) and (11) are reverse-biased during the other half of the dynamo cycle, so capacitors (9) and (12) do not receive power from dynamo (1) during that time. Furthermore, diode (11) is reverse-biased in the path from capacitor (12) through diodes (6) and (11) to capacitor (9), so capacitor (9) cannot receive current from capacitor (12) in addition to current from dynamo (1) as recited in these claims.

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jenny (DE 4,429,693 A1). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

A translation of Jenny is attached to this amendment. As for claims 1-9, in Jenny bulbs (L1, L2) are illuminated by dynamo (D) when the bicycle is running at a sufficient speed, bulbs (L1, L2) are illuminated by batteries (A) when the bicycle stops, and bulbs (L1, L2) are shut off before the batteries fully discharge or after a predetermined time period when dynamo (D) stops. As with

Dunch, Jenny neither discloses nor suggests a lamp control circuit that controls a first lamp switch to intermittently supply power to the lamp from the dynamo while the battery voltage is below a selected value so that the lamp is illuminated while the battery voltage is below the selected value and the dynamo is intermittently supplying power.

As for claims 10-15, capacitors (C1) and (C2) in Jenny are isolated from each other such that current does not flow between the two. Thus, Jenny neither discloses nor suggests a system wherein power is communicated from the dynamo to a second capacitor during one of the positive half-cycle and the negative half-cycle of the dynamo as well as current from a first capacitor.

Claims 1, 7 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Skinner (GB 2,126,438 A1). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

As for claims 1 and 7, Skinner discloses a circuit wherein lamps (16,17) are illuminated by dynamo (10) when the bicycle is running at a sufficient speed, lamps (16,17) are illuminated by batteries (15) during low dynamo output, and lamps (16,17) receive continuous current from dynamo (10) in the same manner as high speed running when the voltage of batteries (15) is below a selected value or else completely shut off. Thus, Skinner neither discloses nor suggests a lamp control circuit that controls a first lamp switch to intermittently supply power to the lamp from the dynamo while the battery voltage is below a selected value so that the lamp is illuminated while the battery voltage is below the selected value and the dynamo is intermittently supplying power

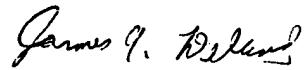
As for claims 10 and 11, dynamo (10) in Skinner has one terminal connected to a ground potential, and transistor TR1 shuts off during the other cycle to preclude any power from being communicated to capacitors (C1) and (C2) during that time. Thus, power is not communicated to at least one capacitor during both half cycles.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 have been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

KOUJI UNO
Application No.: 10/083,226
Page 8

PATENT

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